

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (cancelled)

Claim ¹5 (currently amended): A backing plate for abrasive flap wheels, said backing plate comprising

an inner part formed with a hub having a location hole provided with an internal thread for engaging a threaded shaft of a driving machine, and

an outer flange having a surface for adhesively bonding an abrasive ~~flap-wheel~~ flaps onto said backing plate, said outer flange being formed integrally with said hub,

wherein said inner part comprises a sunken surface between said hub and said outer flange, said sunken surface lying a distance below said surface of said outer flange, said hub extending above said sunken surface essentially only by said distance.

Claim 6 (cancelled)

² Claim ¹7 (currently amended): A backing plate as in claim ¹5 wherein said location hole has a length, said internal thread extending over the entire length and above said sunken surface by said distance.

³
Claim ~~8~~ (previously presented): A backing plate as in claim ~~5~~ wherein said internal thread comprises at least two turns.

⁵
Claim ~~9~~ (currently amended): An abrasive flap wheel comprising:
a backing plate comprising an inner part formed with a hub having a location hole provided with an internal thread for engaging a threaded shaft of a driving machine, an outer flange having a front side for bonding an adhesive ~~flap wheel~~ flaps to said backing plate, said outer flange being formed integrally with said ~~backing plate~~ inner part, and a rear side formed with an annular recess surrounding said location hole, and

¹
a driver plate having an annular step profiled to fit in said annular recess in order to ensure reliable centering of said abrasive flap wheel on said shaft.

⁶
Claim ~~10~~ (currently amended): An abrasive flap wheel as in claim ~~9~~ further comprising an abrasive ~~flap~~ flaps bonded to said front side of said outer flange.

⁷
Claim ~~11~~ (previously presented): An abrasive flap wheel as in claim ~~9~~ wherein said inner part comprises a sunken surface between said hub and said outer flange, said sunken surface lying a distance below said surface of said outer flange, said hub extending above said sunken surface essentially by said distance.

⁸
Claim ~~12~~ (previously presented): An abrasive flap wheel as in claim ~~9~~ wherein said location hole has a length, said internal thread extending over said entire length.

Appl. No. 10/002,736
Amdt. dated October 30, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 30, 2003

Q Claim ⁴~~13~~ (new): A backing plate as in claim ¹~~5~~ wherein said backing plate is made
of injection molded plastic.
